

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-7, 9-25, and 31 are pending in the application with the present amendments. Claim 26 has been canceled and rewritten as claim 31 which depends from claim 16.

Independent claims 1 and 16 of the application have been amended to recite a register and its function in storing control information retrieved from the non-volatile rewriteable storage, features which the Examiner has indicated as making claims 8 and 18 allowable over the cited art. Claim 10, which the Examiner indicates as containing allowable subject matter, has been placed in independent form, as amended to include all of the recitations of the unamended claim 1 from which it formerly depended. As all other claims of the application depend from one of these independent claims, applicants submit that the application has been placed in condition for allowance.

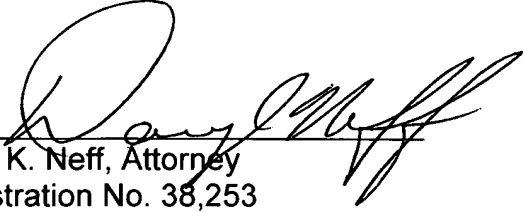
Support for the amendments to the claims is provided, *inter alia* in the original claims, FIG. 2 and the accompanying description thereof at paragraphs [0026] through [0028] of the Specification.

If for any reason the Examiner does not believe that the application can be allowed at this time, the Examiner is requested to telephone the Applicants' attorney at the number indicated below to discuss any issues that may remain.

It is believed that no fee is due in connection with the filing of this Amendment. However, if any fee is due, authorization is granted to debit the Deposit Account No. 09-0458 of the Assignee. If there is an overpayment, please credit the same account.

Respectfully submitted,
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By: _____


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